



- VOL. 2
- ISSUE 10
- FALL 2009

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

SMALL BUSINESS SUCCESS STORY

STARKS CONTRACTING COMPANY, INC.

Starks Contracting Company, Inc. is a veteran-owned small business contracting company primarily engaged in the construction of commercial and institutional buildings and appurtenances.

The company was originally established in 1933 as J. P. Starks Contractor and incorporated in 1967. The Biloxi, Mississippi-based company has been doing business with NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center for more than 30 years.

In November 2006, Starks was awarded a \$19 million construction contract to build a new Emergency Operations Center at Stennis. The approximately 80,000-square-foot EOC consolidates the center's medical clinic, fire department, security services, energy management control system, and incident command post.

The EOC is on track to be Stennis's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) project. LEED is a third-party certification program that is the national benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings.

The EOC showcases a state-of-the-art HazNet Emergency Management System developed



From left, Steven Cooper, Deputy Director of the National Weather Service Southern Region; Tom Luedtke, NASA Associate Administrator for Institutions and Management; Charles Scales, NASA Associate Deputy Administrator; Governor Haley Barbour; Gene Goldman, Director of Stennis Space Center; Jack Forsythe, NASA Assistant Administrator for the Office of Security and Program Protection; Dr. Richard Williams, NASA, Chief Health and Medical Officer; and Weldon Starks, President of Starks Contracting Co., Inc. of Biloxi, MS.

through NASA's Innovative Research Program. The EOC is one of only nine Federal facilities certified StormReady, a designation given by the United States National Weather Service to communities and sites across the country that demonstrate severe-weather readiness.

Starks won the contract over two other large contractors in the full and open competition with a bid that was \$2 million less. This allowed Stennis to reinvest the cost savings in other Hurricane Katrina remediation work.

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SBS SPOTLIGHT



DR. ELEANOR CHIOGIOJI,
PROGRAM MANAGER

NASA OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Eleanor ChioGioji "Eli" comes to NASA from AT&T Government Solutions, Inc. (GSI, formerly GRC International), where as Director of Center for Training Technologies, she provided technical leadership to the company's training initiatives

and established a Corporate Center of Excellence focused on developing state-of-the-art training solutions for the company's DOD customers. She also has experience with small business from her own 8(a) company. Prior to working at GSI, Eli was President and CEO of MELE Associates, Inc., a consulting firm she founded to provide engineering, environmental, management, and information technology services to Federal and non-Federal organizations. MELE Associates received numerous accolades under her

leadership and was listed among the fastest-growing technology companies in the Washington Metropolitan area as well as nationwide. The hard work involved in growing the company was a major contributing factor in Eli's decision to "give back" by joining NASA to help other small businesses become viable entities.

Today, as Special Assistant in NASA's Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP), Eli is able to do that. She provides guidance and strategic direction to the Agency's small business program, developing policies and programs that promote the participation of all categories of small business in NASA's high technology initiatives. She serves in various capacities—as Program Manager, liaison to Center Small Business Specialists, and subject matter expert—and interfaces with Federal agencies, trade associations, and industry.

Eli is a native of Maui, Hawaii. She received her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Hawaii and her master's degree and doctorate from the University of Maryland, where she served as an instructor on the English department

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NASA FY09 Small Business Prime Goals vs Actual Percentages

AS OF JULY 31, 2009
Data Generated on August 10, 2009 from FPDS-NG

CATEGORY	DOLLARS
Total Dollars	\$ 11,985,626,853
Small Business	\$ 1,661,240,757
SDB	\$ 854,483,960
8(a)	\$ 355,418,228
HUBZone	\$ 71,788,172
WOSB	\$ 262,279,264
SDVOSB	\$ 167,613,603

OSBP DETAIL

JOHN CECCONI,
SMALL BUSINESS SPECIALIST

NASA SHARED SERVICES CENTER

You have all heard the saying, "time flies when you are having fun." It could not be truer in the case of my 4-month detail with the Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP). I can still remember my interview with Glenn Delgado when he outlined 5 job responsibilities for me. After their completion, all of the items were presented at the June SBS Council and FY 2010 Small Business Improvement Plan Meeting and were deemed to be a success.

With mixed feelings, my detail has come to an end. Cheryl Harrison has been named my replacement. I am positive she will have a wonderful experience. I have met numerous people at Headquarters who

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OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS



AA's CORNER

I write this month's AA's Corner with mixed feelings. I am very excited that on July 14th and 15th representatives from each of the NASA Centers collaborated and developed the Agency's fiscal year 2010 Small Business Improvement Plan. The group developed three initiatives along with objectives to accomplish the initiatives that will continue to move the Agency's Small Business Programs forward. I am also excited that the changes to the NASA Mentor-Protégé Program have become official after being published in the Federal Register on May 29, 2009. These changes will now allow many more small businesses to participate in the program. On May 18, 2009, Procurement Information Circular (PIC) 09-07 was issued. PIC 09-07 provides guidance to the Agency's acquisition personnel on how to evaluate small business subcontracting plans and other issues related to small business during the proposal process. This PIC is the result of the collaborative efforts between the Office of Procurement, Office of General Counsel, and the Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP).

I would like to recognize Mr. John Cecconi who is here on detail from the NASA Shared Service Center (NSSC). His time here has gone quickly and he will be returning to NSSC shortly. He has accomplished so much in such a short period and his presence in the office will be missed. It was my honor to work with him and I look forward to working with him on many future projects.

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SMALL BUSINESS GRAMS



FAREWELL THOUGHTS FROM GLENN TO ELI

I remember the very first time I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Ms. Eleanor Chigiogji on September 5, 2006. It was my first day as the NASA Assistant Administrator, Office of Small Business Programs. There was something about her I couldn't quite put my finger on, but I knew it was something very special. Anyone who knows me knows I have a thing about names and the first time I saw hers, I knew I was in for a lot of trouble. During my first day and for approximately the entire first year, she spent time with me trying to teach me how to correctly pronounce her name. I did give up after a year, however the working relationship and friendship we have developed over the last three years is something that I will cherish. I have never met a person who is so universally liked across the entire Agency and by every person she comes in contact with while performing her job. Eleanor is special; she is the best coworker, friend, and confidant that many of us have ever worked with. She just has a presence about her that is hard to describe, but when you are in her presence you know it.

I just want to publicly state how much the NASA small business community and everyone who has had the pleasure to have worked with Eli is going to miss her beginning in October when she, to mix a metaphor, hangs up her pen for the final time. You know you are lucky in life when you have a chance to work with someone of Eli's character and you know they made you a better person. Eli, thanks for being that person and enjoy the next chapter in your life and know that you have made NASA and especially the Office of Small Business Programs a much better place.

CONGRATULATIONS! SBS APPOINTMENT



From left to right: Paivi Tripp, Deputy Division Chief, Procurement Division (retired); Tim Pierce, GRC SBS; Dr. Woodrow Whitlow, GRC Center Director; Robyn Gordon, Acting Director, Center Operations Directorate

Small Business Specialist Appointment
Mr. Timothy "Tim" Pierce, Small Business Specialist
John H. Glenn Research Center
Cleveland, Ohio

NASA MENTOR-PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM UPDATE

Greetings!

Some exciting features have been added to the NASA Mentor-Protégé Program (M-P Program). As of Friday, May 29, 2009, the final rule in the NASA FAR Supplement made it possible for new categories of small businesses to participate in the M-P Program. The expanded categories include veteran-owned small businesses, HUBZones, and active NASA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II businesses which include award fee incentives and companies/agencies employing people who are blind or severely disabled.

We are currently working two proposed agreements with SBIR Phase II protégés. These agreements are providing skills from the mentor

to the protégés that will increase the Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) of the protégé to assist in moving the technology into Phase III, commercialization. NASA's ability to promote technology into the commercial world will lower the cost through economies of scale and bring more dividends to NASA.

Not only will these additions enhance NASA's M-P Program, but they will bring new opportunities for the small business community. The next mentor-protégé agreement submission window ends 15 September 2009. We are very excited about the possibilities of working with these new categories of small business!

For additional information visit:
<http://www.osbp.nasa.gov/mentor.html>

Active Agreements:

- ATC & CMS
- Honeywell & AIMM
- JPL & Terazza Design group Inc.
- Raytheon & Fairfield Technologies Inc.
- Raytheon & Genex Systems, LLC.
- SAIC & Oakwood University
- The Boeing Company & CTMI
- The Boeing Company & Orion Propulsion

Approved Mentors:

- Assurance Technology Corporation
- ATK Space Systems
- Ball Aerospace
- Computer Sciences Corporation

- Honeywell Technology Solutions
- ITT Corporation Systems Division
- Jacobs Technology Inc.
- Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- Lockheed Martin Corporation
- Northrop Grumman Corporation
- Pratt Whitney Rocketdyne
- Raytheon Company
- SAIC, Inc.
- Teledyne Brown Engineering
- The Boeing Company
- United Space Alliance
- L-3 Enterprise Information Technology Solutions

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

SBS Spotlight (continued from page 2)

faculty after receiving her Ph.D. She continues her affiliation with the university by serving on various boards and committees.

In 1984, Eli entered Federal service as a research associate and, subsequently, director of the Learning and Instruction Division, Office of Research, at the Department of Education's Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI, formerly the National Institute of Education). In 1990, she served as director of External Programs in the Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Engineering Recruitment, Training, and Development and later as special assistant and principal staff advisor to the assistant secretary of the Office of Domestic and International Energy Policy.

Eli feels that the insights she has gained through working with university students, in the Federal Government, at a large company, and in particular, in a small business have shaped her understanding of the importance of obtaining the right resources for any endeavor. For NASA, that translates into creating an infrastructure that enables the Agency to obtain the skills and capabilities needed for program success; for NASA's small business program that means ensuring that talented, innovative, dedicated small businesses are provided the opportunity to support the NASA mission.

OSBP Detail (continued from page 2)

have assisted me at various times throughout my detail; I thank each and every one of you. A very special thank you goes to the OSBP staff for taking me in and allowing me to get to know you. I have seen firsthand how efficient this staff is when issues arise. The biggest thank you goes to Glenn Delgado for this opportunity to learn and grow and become part of the bigger picture in NASA's Small Business Program.

AA's Corner (continued from page 2)

On a very solemn note, the entire Agency will miss Dr. Eleanor Chiogioji when she leaves the OSBP this October after six wonderful years. I have personally worked with Eli for the past three years, and I can honestly say I have not met anyone in my entire career that has the class and aura of "Eli." She is the matriarch of the NASA small business community and her presence will be GREATLY missed and could never be replaced. Eli we will all miss you, but enjoy your life after NASA and stay in touch.

GLENN A. DELGADO

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
NASA OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

2009 MED Week

August 26–28, 2009 | <http://www.medweek.gov/mbda2009/public/enter.aspx>

KSC Small Business Expo

October 20, 2009 | Cape Canaveral, FL

2009 NASA /JPL Small Business Symposium and Awards Ceremony

November 16–17, 2009 | Bethesda, MD | <http://acquisition.jpl.nasa.gov/boo/2009sbs/index.asp>

USWCC NASA Day

November 18, 2009 | Bethesda, MD | www.uswcc.org

For more OSBP calendar dates, visit our Web site at
<http://www.osbp.nasa.gov/>

SUCCESS STORY SUBMISSION SCHEDULE:

DEADLINE	PUBLISHED
January 31st	March
April 30th	June
July 31st	September
October 31st	December

THE OSBP STAFF:

THE OSBP OFFICE IS A TEAM
COMMITTED TO PROVIDING EXCELLENCE
IN SERVICE AND INFORMATION TO THE
SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

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TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE:

THE OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
PROGRAMS (OSBP) NEWSLETTER IS THE
QUARTERLY ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION
OF THE NASA OSBP.

OSBP welcomes articles and opinion pieces that are directed to advocates of small businesses. These articles are printed as space is available and should be approximately 500–750 words in length. Articles that were printed elsewhere cannot be reprinted in the OSBP Newsletter without written permission from the original printing source. Submissions will be edited as necessary.

Do you have a small business success story that could inspire small business collaboration and advocacy? If so, tell us about it. Send your "success story" to smallbusiness@nasa.gov. Please type "newsletter" in the subject line of your e-mail.

OSBP WEB SITE:

The improved NASA Office of Small Business Programs Web site is up and proving successful in helping individuals and companies to navigate small business policy, procedure, and best practices at NASA.

The purpose of the Web site, www.osbp.nasa.gov, is to share the vision of the Small Business Program at NASA, as well as provide pertinent information on how to do business with NASA.